

FUND FOR UFO RESEARCH, INC.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL BOARD MEMBERS APPOINTED TO FUND FOR UFO RESEARCH  
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(WASHINGTON, D.C.)--Ten prominent individuals in the United States and Great Britain have been appointed to the National Board of the Fund for UFO Research, Inc. The National Board will approve grant proposals for investigation of various aspects associated with Unidentified Flying Objects.

The National Board members are:

Eugenie Clark, PhD, Professor of zoology, University of Maryland

Barry H. Downing, PhD, Presbyterian clergyman and "scientific theologian"

Charles H. Gibbs-Smith, internationally known aviation historian and Keeper Emeritus of the Victoria and Albert Museum, London

Richard Haines, PhD, experimental psychologist at NASA's Ames Research Center, California

Richard C. Henry, PhD, professor of physics, Johns Hopkins University

Ward Kimball, producer of educational films associated with Walt Disney Enterprises

Lou Purnell, Assistant Curator for Spacecraft, Smithsonian Institution Air and Space Museum, Washington, D.C.

Peter Rank, M.D., practicing radiologist and Director of the Departments of Radiology at Methodist Hospital and two clinics in Madison, Wisconsin

Herbert E. Roth, coordinator of flight training for the Boeing 727 fleet, United Airlines, Stapleton International Airport, Denver

Ronald Westrum, PhD, sociologist, Eastern Michigan University

The Fund for UFO Research is a nonprofit scientific and educational organization incorporated in the District of Columbia. It was formed by a group of scientists, engineers and writer-editors in 1979 to provide a mechanism for channeling money into research projects that will increase scientific knowledge about and public understanding of UFO phenomena.

The Fund depends on support from the public for its work. Contributions may be deducted (Internal Revenue Service ID No. 52-1164176).

Several grant proposals are now under consideration and will be announced shortly.

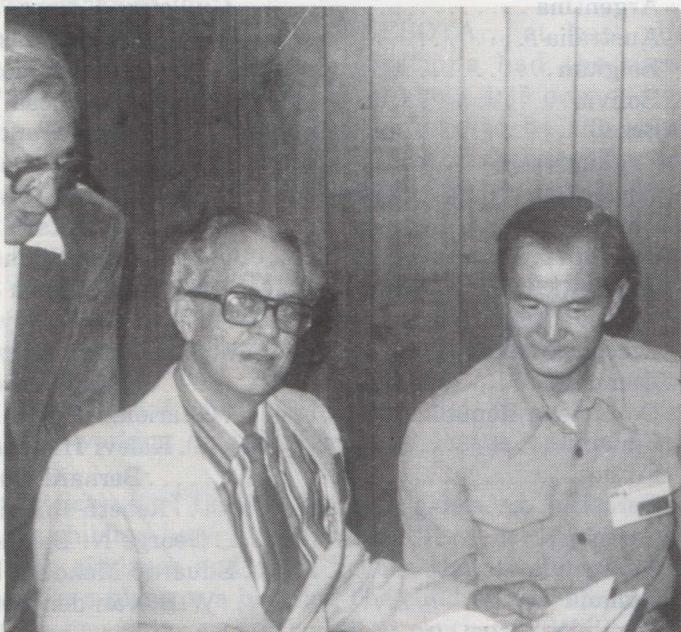
# the apro bulletin

VOL. 28, NO. 7

THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

JANUARY 1980

## UFO BOOK PUBLISHED IN CHINA



Shown above is APRO's Director, Mr. Jim Lorenzen, center, seated with author and Field Investigator, Mr. Paul Dong. The gentleman on the left [unfortunately the camera was not correctly framed] is Mr. Robert Treash of San Diego, another very active APRO Field Investigator.

## FOLLOW-UP

Sheriff Dennis G. Brekke of Marshall County, Minnesota has released a final report on the UFO incident involving Deputy Val Johnson on August 27, 1979. The report was based on research conducted by Roland D. Wardell of Edina, Minnesota, who is a registered professional metallurgical engineer.

As reported in the August, 1979 issue of the *APRO Bulletin*, Deputy Johnson was on patrol about 1:40 a.m. when he spotted a bright light. As he headed toward it, the light swooped in on him and his last recollection was the sound of breaking glass. The encounter resulted in extensive damage to the squad car and irritation to Johnson's eyes.

Wardell emphasized that he conducted his research on his own and that his expertise was in material rather than UFOs. He examined the car's antennas and fragments of glass from the headlights and top flasher light.

(See Follow-Up—Page Three)

The first book on the subject of UFOs to be published in China, is slated to be released in October or November of this year. The book, titled *Let's Talk About Flying Saucers*, is authored by APRO Field Investigator Mr. Paul Dong of San Francisco, California, and will be published by the Ocean Publishing Company. Mr. Dong was asked to write the book by the Science Editor of the *Guang Ming Daily*, the second largest circulation newspaper in China.

Mr. Dong has been a very active member of APRO since January, 1979, and some members may remember meeting him at "UFO's '79" in San Diego, California, during the Symposium there in November, 1979. Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzen were pleased to write the foreword to *Let's Talk About Flying Saucers*, at Mr. Dong's request. This is a great step forward for APRO, for we feel that it will initiate the first real contact with the people of China and probably will bring forth some good, solid information on UFOs in China -- past, present and future.

Well done, Mr. Dong (See photo at left).

## MISSOURI STUDY RESULTS RELEASED

Dr. Harley Rutledge has announced partial results of a six-year scientific field study of UFOs which he directed while chairing the physics department at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau.

Rutledge, director of Project Identification, a University-based organization of scientists, engineers, students and amateur astronomers formed to study UFOs, said he and co-workers experienced 153 sightings of 174 UFOs during that period. He labelled 34 of the sightings as incredible because the UFOs exhibited physical or behavioral properties beyond known man-made technology. On 32 occasions the UFOs seemed to react to him and other Project members. "It's enough to make you think someone is playing a game with us", he said.

The Project logged sightings over a wide area of southeast Missouri, but 48 sightings of 50 UFOs were within or near the city limits of Cape Girardeau itself. In one case, a Cape Girardeau girl reported being chased by a small disc flying at treetop level. It temporarily blinded her by flashing a bright light down upon her as she reached the door of her home. Two witnesses verified the girl's experience.

(See Study—Page Three)

## THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

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AERIAL PHENOMENA

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(Canadian Currency will be accepted)	
All other countries .....	\$15.00/yr.
Overseas Airmail .....	\$17.50/yr.

SUBSCRIPTION to BULLETIN: Same as Above.

## Study

(Continued from Page One)

Rutledge reports that the UFOs were observed in motion, starting, stopping, hovering, changing direction and switching on and off. Six different colors have been observed: off-white, amber, white, red, yellow and green. Five of the lights changed color. Seven craft have been observed including two discs and a bullet-shaped object. One of the discs was observed in daylight by Rutledge from his office window at the University. The bullet-shaped object, also observed in daylight, changed color and vanished. Only three of the UFOs observed made any sound.

Rutledge pointed out that during the 153 sightings 622 persons have been present, averaging about four persons per sighting. "How could any UFO study or single sighting be better documented than this?", he asks.

Rutledge promises that soon he will release more startling results from Project data to the public.

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## Follow-Up

(Continued from Page One)

In his report to Brekke, Wardell said his inspection points to a highly charged electrical "thing" with enough mass and momentum to break the left headlight, crack the windshield, bend two antennas, disrupt the car's electrical system and stop both the car clock and Johnson's wristwatch for 14 minutes.

"I found no earthly explanation that could cause all of those things", Wardell said. "You could pick out all sorts of earthly explanations to cause single portions of it, but to cause all of those things, that makes it very interesting."

Two factors discount a natural phenomenon such as lightning, Wardell said. He cited the sustained, horizontal, beam-like appearance of the light, and the need for mass to accomplish what happened to the patrol car.

The disruption of the car's electrical system "points heavily to something electrical in nature, with enough force to bend the antennas," Wardell said. But with a man-made charge, he added, he would have expected to see more evidence that the light arced from one point to another.

In concluding his report, Wardell said any statement as to what damaged the car would be speculation. But he did not rule out the possibility of some kind of vehicle from outer space.

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## PLEASE!

Send address changes and include old & new Zip Codes

## FOR THE RECORD

The December, 1977 issue of the *International UFO Reporter* carried an interview with Father Gill of the famous Boianai, New Guinea, sighting.

At one point in the interview, the I.U.R. interviewer said: "The Adamski people . . . Norris came to see you?"

We were concerned at this implication since Peter Norris, a very competent barrister, had represented APRO in Australia for many years, and our interchange with him had indicated quite the opposite.

The following interchange of correspondence is self-explanatory and sets the record straight:

August 9, 1978

Dear Peter:

The enclosed article from I.U.R. has Gill apparently characterising you as one of the "Adamski people".

Would you care to comment on this?

I hope it's not true.

Sincerely,  
Jim Lorenzen

March 24, 1980

Dear Jim,

While sorting through some old papers I came upon your letter of 9/8/78 (photostat herewith).

I have no recollection of having received this letter, and even less of having replied to it.

I am surprised to see myself characterised as one of "the Adamski people", particularly by Bill Gill, who knows me well enough to realise that this is not factual.

The most likely explanation is that there was some confusion (probably on the part of I.U.R.) as to the "Norris" involved, and I would guess the intended reference was to Colin Norris, the South Australian U.F.O. "investigator" who is certainly one of the "Adamski people", and a supporter of every contactee ever to file a report, no matter how ill-founded or unlikely the claim.

I expect the matter is not of much relevance at this date, but naturally it is of sufficient personal significance for me to wish to put the record straight.

With best wishes to yourself and Coral.

Sincerely,  
Peter Norris

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## THE BIG MOTHER UFO

*By Coral Lorenzen  
CONCLUSION*

Our next "monstrous" UFO came to me via an APRO member who in 1976 wrote briefly of a sighting he had had in the 1930s when a boy between 7 and 9. I

responded that even though he was a child, we would be interested in hearing of the experience. As is often the case, he didn't immediately respond, but on July 16, 1979 I received a record of his report. I present it here in his own words, from his letter dated July 12, 1979:

"What I am about to relate took place over 40 years ago. The incident is one of those few that stand out clearly in my mind, even though at the time I was only about 7 or 9 years of age. I can assure you that any possible error in perception or interpretation would have taken place at the time, not since and not due to time or suggestion. It has been a puzzle to me over the years.

"I was living in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania when the occurrence took place. The time was during the mid or late 1930s. My father, mother and I were driving home one night along one of the rivers in the area. It was well after sunset since I remember it being very dark with no glow in the sky, just deep blackness. The road wound along the side of a hill following the bends and turns of the river.

"I was looking out of the car's side window. Across the river, I could see the factories and steel mills with their lights reflected off the surface of the water. Then I noticed something unusual. There was a long black mass outlined by the reflections of the mill lights. At first I thought it was one of the many riverboats that pushed barges up and down the rivers. But there was a curious difference between the riverboats and this form. The boats all had dim little lights in windows and on deck while this had no lights on board, just blackness front to back. The only lights on this thing were coming from one end of it. Two or three very brilliant "spotlights" were shining down into the water at about a 45° angle.

"All this my little mind could have accepted but for one other thing. The shape holding these lights was two to three times the size of any riverboat and it was "hovering" over the water, not on it or in it, but over it! I could plainly see this since the "Search lights" were shining ahead and down and the reflections from the factories were coming under the thing.

"I called to my father, who was driving, and asked him to look and tell me what it was. He slowed down, looked and his answer has stayed with me ever since. He said it was a "flying boat".

"My young mind heard it but I couldn't understand it. The puzzle to all this is mainly that my father was very interested in aviation. He had helped to build and had weekly flown two full size gliders (as part of a club project) and knew the principles of flight. I had seen him and his friends fly the large gliders and had flown small models myself and I knew they all had some things in common. They were light in weight, had wings, and had to move to stay up. I believed my father but felt something was wrong.

"As I grew older and read more about airplanes, I did hear of and see pictures of "flying boats", but they were large planes with wings and engines and they

landed on and took off from large bodies of water. One was called the "China Clipper", a very lovely and fascinating "flying boat" but not anything like the large wingless object I saw hovering over the river, dark, scary and with those bright "headlights" to peer into the water.

"All this would have stayed a puzzle of childhood had I not become interested in the UFO phenomenon. I found that a not too uncommon sighting involves a long dark object hovering over water with powerful searchlights shining down into the water.

"My father has been gone for sometime and my mother doesn't remember anything about the incident. But I remember telling this exact story for most of the 40 years since it happened, long before "saucers" were seen on the west coast.

"P.S. If you intend to publish any part of the above, I prefer no reference be made to me and my name not be used."

As is the case of the witness in the above report, quite often observers hesitate to make public their experiences with UFOs, and the sighting of a huge object at sea in June, 1947, did not come into our hands until Edgar Jarrold, an Australian researcher, forwarded the text of a letter from Mrs. A.M. King of Nairobi, South Africa, in 1954. Subsequent accounts years later indicate that Mrs. King observed one of the huge "mother" ships, possibly the source of the many smaller atmospheric craft seen that summer. I quote:

"I left Mombasa at the end of June, 1947, on the SS Llandovery Castle en route to Cape Town and, going through the Straits of Madagascar about the beginning of July, was on deck with another lady passenger at approximately 11 p.m. when we noticed a particularly bright star. It was traveling very fast and approached the ship. Suddenly a searchlight appeared which flashed a strong beam of light on the water within fifty yards of the ship. It descended, its beam shortening and becoming brighter as it neared the water, and the next instant there was no more light, but an object appeared, apparently made of steel and shaped like a cigar cut at the rear end. It remained in the air about twenty feet above the sea, parallel with the Llandovery Castle, and traveling in the same direction.

"Gaining a little in speed, after a second or two the whole shape disappeared without a sound, from the rear issuing fierce flames which shot out to about half the length of the object. It appeared that there must be something like a huge furnace inside the thing, but still we could hear no noise from the flames. No windows could be seen, only a band of metal round the entire thing which, if it had been a complete cigar shape, would have been centrally situated.

"The object was very large, about four times the length of the Llandovery Castle and at a rough guess about four times as high. We had a wonderful view, but in a few seconds it disappeared. No light was seen forward as it left; it just vanished soundlessly in the darkness. For a while we thought we were the only

ones on deck at that late hour but, walking to the prow of the ship, we saw there one of the ship's officers with a few passengers; the entire party had seen the same thing. Whether or not it is recorded in the ship's log, I know not."

One of the most remarkable *huge* UFOs was seen over the little town of Vernon, France during the night of August 22-23, 1954, and was chronicled by French researcher extraordinaire, Aime Michel in his excellent book, "Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery" Criterion Books, New York, 1958.

The night of August 22 was very clear, the moon was six days from full and toward the end of the night, it shed little light. Just before 1 a.m. on the 23rd, Monsieur Bernard Miserey, a Vernon businessman, arrived at home and put his car away. As he emerged from the garage (he lived on the south bank of the Seine) he was surprised to note that the town which had been completely dark just moments before, was illuminated by a pale light. Looking up into the sky he was shocked to see a huge, silent, motionless, luminous object which appeared to be suspended over the north bank of the river about three hundred yards away, and appeared as a gigantic cigar standing on end.

Miserey watched this spectacle for a couple of minutes when he was further amazed to see an object like a horizontal disc which dropped from the bottom of the object. It dropped in free fall, then slowed and suddenly swayed and dived horizontally across the river toward him, becoming very bright. For a very short time he observed the disc fullface, and it was surrounded by a halo of brilliant light. This object, going in a southwesterly direction, at very high speed, disappeared behind Miserey, but more was to come for a few minutes later, a similar little disc exited from the cigar-shaped object, then a third, then a fourth, all proceeding into the southwest. Finally, after a longer interval between "launches", a fifth disc detached itself from the main object, which remained motionless and in a vertical position. This disc dropped, remained motionless after it came to a stop at a much much lower altitude than the others, to the level of the new bridge. It remained there for a bit, swaying slightly, whereupon it wobbled like the first four and took off like a flash toward the north where it was lost in the distance as it gained altitude. During this time, the brilliance of the cigar had faded and the huge object which Miserey estimated could have been 300 feet long, had "sunk into darkness." The spectable had a duration of about forty-five minutes.

The next day M. Miserey described what he had seen, and police informed him that two policemen making their rounds at 1 a.m., and an army engineer who had been driving along Route N-181 southwest of Vernon had all been witnesses to the spectacle.

Most aficionadoes of the strange, unusual and unknown are by now very familiar with the giant "cloud" cigar, seen by hundreds about 250 miles southwest of Paris, France in the department of

Vendee, but it should at least be mentioned in connection with these giants of sky objects. It was just three weeks after the Vernon sighting, and hundreds of people stopped work in their fields to watch a great, violet-colored luminous, carrot or cigar-shaped mass which dropped out of the low-hanging clouds and when it located itself about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile about the ground, it slowly assumed a vertical position, it's "front" or leading edge tipping toward the ground much like a submerging submarine. Suddenly, from the bottom, smoke seemed to issue, and began to wind itself around the object, adding to the cloud-like consistency of the giant. Shortly the witnesses were able to discern what was making the "vapor trail" — it was (compared to the main object) a very tiny shiny metallic disc. It finished its spiralling traveling around the "cigar", then zipped away across the valley soon to return in a headlong plunge toward the big object. It entered the lower portion of the "cigar", whereupon the latter changed from vertical to horizontal position, then began to move, accelerating until it was lost in the clouds in the distance. This whole show lasted about thirty minutes, and was witnessed by enough people to rule out the only explanation anyone could think of: that it might have been a tornado or "twister". However, a check with weather officials later established that the atmospheric conditions at the time contra-indicated a tornado cloud and no one else had reported a tornado or the phenomena which usually accompanies a tornado.

As the reader will have noted the reports we've examined thus far have dealt with objects which were not moving, moving slowly or hovering, and three of which were on or above water. Our last case is definitely one which exhibits that UFO characteristic so often reported by witnesses: speed. The aftermath of the sighting also is typical of the ridicule often heaped on the unwitting UFO percipient.

This case came to APRO in the course of the investigation of a spate of sightings in the vicinity of Vina, in Northern California in October and November, 1978. The principal witness was a young ranch hand on the ranch of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cobb. Cobb, it turned out, is a retired Air Force Officer who, when interviewed by the press, recounted a sighting he had had in 1956. The press report was sketchy at best, and in a subsequent interview a truly remarkable case emerged.

Cobb does not recall any exact date but his experience took place in the fall of 1952, a few months after the historical radar-visual sightings over Washington, D.C. in July. Cobb, a flight commander of a fighter squadron holding the rank of Captain, was piloting a twin engine C-47 transport plane en route to Pease Air Force Base at Portsmouth. He was accompanied by a friend. At about 4 p.m. the Portsmouth bridge was in sight when he caught sight of an object to his right (east) which he first thought was a flock of ducks as it appeared to be an elongated group of "dots" following an east to west path. Cobb was at

4,000 feet, and traveling at a speed of 150 miles per hour.

When the "dots" arrived at a point directly ahead (north) of Cobb he saw that the dots were apparently structures or "machinery" within a silvery, iridescent, cigar-shaped body which he estimated to be 750 feet long and 100 feet in diameter. This guess was based on estimated distance from the object to Cobb's airplane and landmarks against which the object was silhouetted (the Portsmouth bridge, for one). Cobb estimated the object's speed to be approximately 500 miles per hour. It continued its westward flight until it disappeared into the distance.

Cobb and his companion heard no sound but of course the noise from the transport's engines would have precluded that. When they landed at Portsmouth the two men proceeded to the toll house of the Portsmouth bridge and asked the toll taker if he had seen or heard anything unusual, but he hadn't.

Word of the sighting got out and Cobb was ordered to file a formal report and upon completion and forwarding of the report, Cobb was questioned by a battery of scientists from Washington, D.C.

Weeks later, during dress parade at the base, Cobb was called forward and the Officer of the Day pinned a "Tom Corbett" space badge to Cobb's tunic. It had obviously been gleaned from a box of breakfast cereal. Cobb said he was the laughing stock of the base for weeks afterward.

These, then, are the big mothers (ships?) of UFOlogy. The two French cases indicate that this type of UFO is at least capable of housing the more often witnessed discs and in the one case, the discs were spinning what may have been a camouflage of sorts around the parent craft.

I have long been of the opinion that the discs are not space craft, but aircraft designed to operate within the atmosphere of a given planet. But these gargantuan "tubes" — could they be spacecraft which transport the aircraft across space? It's just another question pertaining to the complicated subject of UFOs, but something to think about nevertheless.

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## PRESS REPORTS SUMMARY

BY Iris Maack

IN THE UNITED STATES

"ORANGE BALLS" TAKE THE LIMELIGHT IN UFO SIGHTINGS RECENTLY... is it possible that atmospheric conditions create visual anomalies which are perceived by individuals who are in a receptive state? If so, why are these individuals 'prepped'? Would someone be kind enough to step forward and share their findings?

COOPERSTOWN, NORTH DAKOTA... at least 16

people saw a bright flame-colored object on September 16. Mr. and Mrs. Don Loder, Jim Scott and Ethel Painter made the original report at approximately 8:30 p.m. Shortly after, Ethel's grandson Todd Painter and his companion Gary Vareberg, who had been hunting doves about five miles west of town were about to go home when they saw a bright orange object overhead. Todd said it was big, round and had a tail that pointed downward. They got into their pickup truck and watched the object move back and forth before it headed west.

Esther Larson was leaving the hospital, where she had been doing some work in the Laboratory. She left by the west door at approximately 8:30 p.m., and over the trees she saw a bright orange object that seemed to have flashing lights. She reported that it was partly cone-shaped and partly round.

The Arnold Saxberg family reported sighting the object over their farm. Mr. Saxberg described it as oblong or oval, and when it turned it looked like two tails or flames went straight up from the base. "It was red, like fire, and moved slowly," said Mrs. Saxberg, who estimated they watched it for 15 - 20 minutes. She noticed that the object was traveling northwest against the wind, which was from the southwest.

BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY... Houston Smith, 69, of Three Forks, awoke at about 8:30 p.m., September 26, to a sound similar to "air going out of a tire." He got out of bed, looked out his window and saw what looked like "a big ball of fire" from a "red kind of light." Smith said he watched the object, which was 30 - 40 feet in the air, for a few minutes before it disappeared.

Several other residents of the Three Forks community told WKCT News that they also observed an object similar to the one described by Smith at about the same time that night.

SUFFOLK, VIRGINIA... two Suffolk residents and a Portsmouth resident have said they saw a UFO on two different nights at the Suffock-Chesapeak-Portsmouth area.

Cheri Underwood and Debbie Presson, of Suffolk, said they were returning home from night school in Virginia Beach when they saw an oval or round object flying above the trees and over Rt. 58 on September 13, around 10 p.m.

Ms. Underwood described the object as moving in circles, having bluish-green and red lights and one large white light that "didn't seem to be spotting down on anything."

The two women were traveling the same road September 17, at approximately the same time, when they said they saw the object again. There were no other cars on the road and Ms. Underwood said, "It went right over our car - low. It was shooting lights out like flying insects."

The UFO was moving along with them toward Suffolk on Rt. 58, Ms. Underwood said. The women went to the Suffolk Police Department and made a report to the officer on duty.

A check at the Airport Shell gas station, across from the Chesapeake-Portsmouth Airport revealed that the manager, Charlie Sullivan, was riding with his wife and three children on the night of *September 17*, around 9 p.m., in the vicinity of Airline and Victory Boulevards in Portsmouth. Sullivan said that his 15-year-old son and two younger daughters told him there was a "flying saucer" above them. He said he told the kids to quit being "silly." No report was made to the police.

CANNON FALLS, MINNESOTA... at least nine people at two different locations had the same experience on *September 18*, at about 4:15 p.m.

All nine saw what they believe to be the same object, "A SHINY, ROUND DISC," described by one as "chrome-colored" that looked like an upside down hubcap.

Four of the nine, 11-year-old Tanya Weber, her 9-year-old brother Tony, 11-year-old Kevin Molstrom, and 9-year-old Jody Foregien, were tumbling in the backyard of the Tom and Linda Weber home.

The other five, Arnie Hjermstad, Dennis Felton, Jerry Ratlaff, Jerry Schanink, and Allen Barsness, were working on the Hjermstad house, only a block away.

Relatives of the Webers own a hot air balloon and the children have ridden in one. They are also familiar with airplanes and don't believe that this object was either a plane or a balloon. The children said the object was moving from northwest to southeast. Workers at the Hjermstad house said the same.

"The object was sighted at 11 o'clock in the sky moving from northwest to southeast," said Arnie Hjermstad. "We're sure it was the same sighting (as the Weber children)."

According to Hjermstad, air currents that day were moving from west to east, but this object "was going faster than air currents. It was flying as fast as a jet, or faster. I'm guessing."

Hjermstad did comment that when a jet goes over the horizon it appears to be going down, because of the curvature of the earth. "This thing stayed the same or got even higher," said Hjermstad.

MYERSDALE, PENNSYLVANIA... Allen Cline of Somerset RD#7, and Von Wharsel spotted what they believe was a UFO over Listie, on *October 2*, at approximately 2:05 a.m.

Cline said the night was a clear one and the stars could be seen. All at once, he spotted a bright, white light in the southwestern sky. At first, the two men thought it was a plane going to land at the Somerset County Airport near Friedens, but the light didn't move. It stayed in place for about five minutes and then disappeared.

Cline then said he saw a smaller red light in the same spot that appeared to be rather hazy, and suddenly the light shot straight up into the sky without making a sound. It went up and then back down again to the brighter white light, looking like a huge spotlight. Then it moved away again.

Cline says when the hazier red light reappeared this time, two smaller blue lights appeared behind the red one in the sky. It remained there for a short time, and suddenly took off, looking like a jet going into flight. But, as Cline said, the night was still silent. Even as the object moved overhead, it made no sound. Then it disappeared from sight.

ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA... according to the Mower County Sheriff's Department, Thomas Gebhart of rural Waltham reported that something broke or pushed down a 12-foot square area of his beanfield on *October 14*. Gebhart said there also were two 4-inch deep depressions in the area where his beans were burned. The damage was believed to have occurred two to four weeks prior to his report.

In another incident, Thomas Brasten, of Coon Rapids, reported seeing a UFO at about 1 a.m. on *October 14*, shortly after arriving at a rural Austin residence where he was staying. The two objects, one large, one small, emitted a white colored steady glow and hovered for about 10 to 15 minutes. Brasten said the objects then moved off to the northeast.

WINTER HAVEN, FLORIDA... Phil Guthrie and Bill Cheeseman weren't the only persons to see a thin, elongated flash of white light on *October 8*, which they believe to be a UFO.

Rick Myers, a 20 year-old freshman at Polk Community College, said he was working on his car in the driveway of his home with his friend, Mark Cobb, when they both spotted a thin, silver flash in the sky. That was at approximately 7 p.m., the same time Guthrie and Cheeseman said they spotted the bright white configuration in the sky on State Road 540 near Thornhill Road.

Dr. Edgar Willard said he was driving along Cypress Gardens Boulevard near Lake Roy when he spotted the "orange and white" light hovering in the distance. Willard said that several of his friends in the Valencia Hills subdivision also spotted the unusual flash of light, which the doctor described as being "wide at the top and thin at the bottom."

"I never saw anything in the world like it," explained Willard. "I don't want them (Guthrie and Cheeseman) to think they were the only ones who saw it."

Guthrie reported the sighting to the Polk County Sheriff's Department.

LINCOLN CITY, OREGON... five persons reported sighting a UFO over the Panther Creek area at 7:30 p.m., *October 2*, according to the Lincoln City Police Department.

The UFO was said to be moving westward at a relatively rapid pace, and was described as a flashing red and green object, flat in shape. With each flash emitted, according to reports, television and radio reception was disrupted.

Also, that same night, in a development that may not be related to the Lincoln County incident, literally hundreds of calls were received by Yamhill County Sheriff's Department regarding a forest fire that

erupted nine miles northwest of Yamhill. At least three of the callers reported that "a ball of flame" was the apparent cause of the blaze.

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE has once again become a hotbed of UFO controversy. If there had not been such a large number of reported sightings spanning many years, the strange lights area residents claim to have seen could be dismissed as an elaborate hoax or a 'form of mass hysteria'. But, so persistent have been the reports that such explanations seem inadequate.

Virtually all the sightings have gone unreported to the local authorities. Former Hillsborough police chief Paul Cronin, who now heads the Seabrook Police Department, said recently that during his years in Hillsborough only a couple of sightings were ever reported to his department.

Instead, the sightings were only quietly discussed among those who had actually seen the lights. It wasn't until Hillsborough resident Robert Guglio witnessed the lights in the sky that people, at Giglio's urging came forward with information.

Giglio's experience occurred when his daughter told him about a light seen on the side of Craney Hill in Henniker in July of 1977. Giglio, accompanied by his daughter and two members of the Hillsborough Police Department, Sgt. Pete Cate and Officer Tom Borque, went to investigate at 3:20 a.m.

"When we went back down, sure enough, it was there on the hillside," said Giglio.

A photographer, Giglio said he took about two dozen black and white photos, then returned to the area around dawn and took nearly 100 more pictures. Last Fall, (1979) Giglio took his film to Itek Corporation, in Bedford, Mass., for analysis. The firm's Image Analysis Group, which performs photographic interpretation for many clients, including the U.S. Government, examined Giglio's pictures using the company's sophisticated equipment.

A high ranking company official who took part in the analysis last October said that technicians were unable to determine just what the light was, but he did say that there definitely was something there recorded on film. The official, who no longer is with Itek, said further that the Itek Team was able to determine that the object was between seven and ten feet in diameter and had an even luminosity, that is it did not have any 'hot spots' but rather the light appeared to emanate from the entire object with the same intensity.

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## LETTERS

To the Editor:

Recently I subscribed once again to *The APRO*

*Bulletin* and also obtained issues which I missed during the past few years. I may now say without any reasonable doubt that no other source of UFO information and theory currently available compares with the APRO Bulletin as far as range of coverage and sane balance of viewpoint are concerned. I am sure that my Borders of Science course will be strengthened by my renewed access to this important source.

I was a charter member of a so-called "Blue Ribbon UFO Panel" sponsored by *The National Enquirer*, and in connection with their investigation of the Walton "abduction" case, misunderstandings arose which led to my self-imposed abstention from APRO activities. The dispute was in regard to procedures, and the purposes of journalism and those of a more scientific interest are quite understandably different although not necessarily opposed to each other. In point of fact, the newspaper, the Panel members, and, in connection with some of the investigations, APRO also, were in a fair measure of, harmony. Some credit for that should be given to the journalist William Dick who is now a General Editor of the *Enquirer*. When various less mature reporters were involved, however, misunderstandings did arise and this led to my resignation from the Panel and abstention from APRO activities. I was not directly involved in the Walton case, as I had resigned from the Panel prior to that, but was concerned about questions of information flow and what seemed to me to be an increasing failure of communication among the various parties concerned with UFO reports. I understand that the Panel no longer exists, so similar difficulties should not be expected in the future. My appraisal of the tolerance of many conflicting viewpoints which has always characterized APRO is the principal basis for my opinion that it was, and continues to be, the best all-round source of information and theories in the UFO field. I also seriously contend that mass journalism has a worthwhile part to play, especially since governmental bureaus have failed so conspicuously to encourage access to what has been going on behind the scenes.

My own continued involvement with the UFO problems has been expressed through the afore-mentioned University course, through public lectures given as a university service, and through a just-published book *The Magic of Truth*. I expect that my future confrontations with UFO problems will be greatly enlightened by close attention to the findings to be made available through the *APRO Bulletin*.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Creegan, Ph.D.  
Professor of Philosophy  
State University of New York at Albany

Thank you, and welcome back, Dr. Creegan! The Editor